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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

OLC 75.2834

4 NOV 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(SECURITY POLICY), OASD(C)
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INTELLIGENCE,
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE
DIRECTOR, PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
DIRECTOR, DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION,
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Subj: Department of the Navy Drug Studies

Encl: (1) Draft OSD Press Release on subject

During a recent records search, classified Navy files were discovered which indicate that from 1947 to 1952 the Department of the Navy conducted limited studies to determine the effectiveness of drugs on human behavior and performance, in the treatment of psychiatric illness, and as an interrogation aid.

As these files contain references to an interest in and/or support of the Navy studies by your office, this memorandum is to advise that the files have been declassified and are going to be provided on 6 November 1975 to the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities and to the Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure. These files are available for your review, if desired, prior to noon on 6 November 1975, in the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI), Pentagon (OX-52907). Please advise ONI of your intentions.

For your information, enclosure (1) is a copy of the Chief of Navy Information press release to be issued by the Office of the Secretary of Defense in conjunction with the transfer of subject files to the Congress.

OSD has no objection to
declassification and release.

Thomas K. Latimer
Thomas K. Latimer
The Special Assistant

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OSD review(s) completed.

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The Navy has delivered to the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities and the Senate Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure, documents related to drug research on human subjects during the period 1947 through 1954. These documents were discovered by the Navy in the course of conducting an on-going research of old files. The documents indicate that the research was conducted to determine the effects of drugs on human behavior and performance, their usefulness during interrogations, and in the treatment of psychiatric illness. Liaison was maintained with the other Services, the CIA, and the FBI. Research was conducted at the Naval Medical Research Institute and the Naval Hospital at Bethesda, Maryland and by contract with the University of Rochester.

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